

SEEKONK COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

Minutes – July 28, 2014

Present: John Alves, Priscila Dunn, Dave Norton, Jim Tusino, Neal Abelson, Susan Waddington

Absent: Jason Adamonis, Richard Wallace, Willit Mason

Guest: Gary Sagar

The meeting was called to order in the Town Hall Meeting Room at 7:00 by Chair, John Alves

Approval of minutes: Minutes from the meetings of April 27, 2014 and June 9, 2014 were approved as written by those present at those meetings. (The Chairman to follow up on land grant application for the Turner property mentioned in the April 27th minutes.)

Discussion and wrap up details for land purchases on Read St. and Bittersweet Drive: No update on the Read St. property, but John will check on the survey which may be in process for Bittersweet Drive. The survey must be done before the Conservation Commission can review the property in August.

Discussion of meeting with Historical Commission, Tribe, CPC and the Board of Selectmen: (Discussions about Old Town Hall, continued through the meeting, so I have put them all together in this paragraph). At the meeting with the Selectmen, CPC, Historical Commission and Tribe, it was recognized that the Town has the responsibility of providing a roof. Once that is in place the Tribe can take possession. Roger Lincoln, Tribal representative, indicated that once it takes possession, the Tribe will be able to file for grants and that two million seemed like a doable amount. Dave Norton reported that the Town Administrator currently has the specs for an asphalt roof and it is hoped that an RFP has gone out and that a contractor will be selected soon. Gary Sagar, BOS member, would like to see any documents supporting a local designation of this building as of historical significance. Until we receive an application from the Historic Commission our committee has no stake in this matter.

At this point it was 7:30 so the meeting was adjourned so we could hold our Annual Public Hearing. At 7:35 the Public Hearing was adjourned and this meeting reopened.

Member's roundtable: Jim mentioned that the design part of the Seekonk Commons project is moving forward. The grants agreement between Seekonk and the Community Preservation Organization stipulates that a suitable sign must be provided.

Susan mentioned the need to generate more applications. This led to a comment from John that Affordable Community Housing is needed. Jim said he would support an application to help people purchase more homes through deeds restrictions. That led to a discussion of the School St. Administration building which could possibly provide 2 or 3 units. John will call the Community Preservation Organization to see what the possibilities are.

It is also possible that the Historic Commission will come back with a request for funds to finish the Old Town Hall roof. If this is the case, it must be done quickly as our deadline is October for the November Town Meeting.

John requested that we vote to pay our annual Community Preservation Organization dues (\$1,750.00). Given the amount of assistance given to all CPCs by this organization, we voted unanimously to pay this.

There was also general discussion about the suitability of the School Administration building on School Street for affordable housing.

Next meeting: September 24, 2014 at 7:30 in the Planning Bd. Room, Town Hall
The meeting was adjourned at 8:04.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan R. Waddington, Clerk